Name of Practice: IRRIGATION WATER RECYCLING SYSTEM
DCR Specification for No. WQ-7

This document specifies terms and conditions for the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation's irrigation water recycling system best management practice, that are applicable to all contracts, entered into with respect to that practice.

A. Description and Purpose

A system of practices designed to distribute, collect and reuse irrigation water and surface runoff from agricultural fields involved in the production of vegetable and horticultural crops.

The purpose is to improve water quality by collecting and reusing irrigation and surface runoff that may be high in nutrients, sediments, or pesticides from a variety of vegetable and horticultural crops grown using plastic or synthetic fiber mulches and impervious surfaces.

B. Policies and Specifications

1. Tax Credit is authorized:
   - i. For the construction of reservoirs and/or other irrigation collection pits. This includes all practice components essential to the construction and operation of these facilities. Also includes the spreading of spoil and land smoothing associated with excavated pits.
   - ii. For permanent distribution pipe and other installation costs associated with utilizing new or converting existing irrigation facilities into a recovery system.
   - iii. For pumping equipment.
   - iv. For establishing vegetation to protect the structure(s) from erosion.
   - v. For land smoothing, grading, surface drainage, channels, waterways, pipes, and other measures necessary to collect and transport surface flow and irrigation water runoff back into the irrigation facilities.
   - vi. Any associated costs in planning, design, and testing by a private contractor, consultants, or engineer of the irrigation system or components.

2. An annual water test is required of the applicant for the lifespan of the practice. Minimum requirements would be to test for nitrogen (nitrate and nitrite), phosphorous, and the specific chemicals used in the operation.

3. The volume of water applied through the irrigation system must be calculated and documented as part of the Irrigation Water Management practices that is required for every system.

4. This practice is subject to NRCS Standards 342 Critical Area Planting, 350 Sediment Basin, 356 Dike, 362 Diversion, 393 Filter Strip, 410 Grade Stabilization Structure, 412 Grassed Waterway, 436 Irrigation Storage Reservoir, 449 Irrigation Water Management, 430 Irrigation Pipeline, 436 Irrigation Storage Reservoir, 441 Irrigation System, Micro irrigation, 442 Irrigation System Sprinkler, 441 Irrigation System, Micro-Irrigation, 466 Land Smoothing, 447 Irrigation Systems Tail water Recovery, 468 Lined Waterway or Outlet, 533 Pumping Plant, 552 Irrigation Regulating Reservoir, 572 Spoil Spreading, 582 Open Channel, 607 Surface Drainage, Field Ditch, 608 Surface Drainage, Main or Lateral, 620 Underground Outlet, and 638 Water and Sediment Control Basin.

5. All practice components implemented must be maintained for a minimum of 10 years following the calendar year of installation. The lifespan begins on Jan. 1 of the calendar year following the year of implementation. By accepting a state tax credit for this practice the participant agrees to maintain all practice components for the specified lifespan. This practice is subject to spot check by the SWCD throughout the lifespan of the practice and failure to maintain the practice may result in reimbursement of cost share and/or tax credits.

C. Rate(s)

1. As set forth by Virginia Code § 58.1-339.3 and §58.1-439.5, Virginia law currently provides a tax credit for implementation of certain BMP practices. The current tax credit rate, which is subject to change in accordance with the Code of Virginia, is 25% of the total eligible cost not to exceed $17,500.00.

2. The Tax Credit rate is 25% of the total eligible cost not to exceed $17,500.00. If a cooperator receives any cost-share, only the cooperator's share of the project is used to determine the tax credit.

D. Technical Responsibility

Technical and administrative responsibility is assigned to qualified technical DCR and SWCD staff in consultation, where appropriate and based on the controlling standard, with DCR, Virginia Certified Nutrient Management Planner(s), NRCS, DOF, and VCE . Individuals certifying technical need and technical practice installation shall have appropriate certifications as identified above, and/or Engineering Job Approval Authority (EJAA), for the designed and installed component(s). All practices are subject to spot check procedures and any other quality control measures.

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